



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

CALIFORNIA DIVISION

650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100

Sacramento, CA. 95814

May 12, 2005

IN REPLY REFER TO

HDA-CA

Document # S47218

Mr. Mark Pisano, Executive Officer
Southern California Association of Governments
818 West 7th Street, 12th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Mr. Pisano:

SUBJECT: 8-Hour Ozone Standard Conformity Determination for SCAG's 2004 Regional Transportation Plan (*Destination 2030*) and 2004 Regional Transportation Improvement Program

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed our review of the 8-hour ozone conformity determination for the Southern California Association of Governments' (SCAG's) 2004 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) (*Destination 2030*) and the 2004 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP). Effective June 15, 2004, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designated areas as nonattainment for the new 8-hour ozone standard. SCAG performed the conformity determination to demonstrate conformity of the RTP and RTIP for the new ozone standard.

The SCAG made the 8-hour conformity determination for the 2004 RTP and 2004 RTIP on March 3, 2005 (Resolution 05-461-1). The conformity analysis submitted to the FHWA/FTA by SCAG indicates that all air quality conformity requirements have been met, including those for the 8-hour ozone standard. Based on our review, we find that the 2004 RTP and 2004 RTIP conform to the applicable state implementation plan (SIP) in accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR Parts 51 and 93. In accordance with the July 15, 2004, *Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Federal Highway Administration, California Division and the Federal Transit Administration, Region IX*, the FTA has concurred with this conformity determination. Additionally, this approval was made after consultation with the EPA, Region 9 office, pursuant to the Transportation Conformity Rule.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 93.102(d), this conformity determination fulfills the requirement that areas designated nonattainment for the 8-hour ozone standard complete a conformity determination by June 15, 2005. This conformity determination also ends the transportation conformity lapse in the Searles Valley planning area. The FHWA and the FTA originally found the RTP and 2004 RTIP to conform to the applicable SIP on June 7, 2004, and October 4, 2004, respectively. This conformity determination does not re-start the three-year clock for the RTP or RTIP (40 CFR 93.104(b)(3) and (c)(3)) since SCAG relied on previous regional emissions analyses for portions of the conformity determination.



In accordance with the above MOU, this letter constitutes the FHWA and the FTA's joint air quality conformity determination for the SCAG's 2004 RTP and 2004 RTIP. If you have any questions pertaining to this conformity determination, please contact Jean Mazur, of the FHWA, at (916) 498-5732.

Sincerely,

/s/ K. Sue Kiser

For
Gene K. Fong
Division Administrator

cc: (e-mail)
Ted Harris, SCAG
Brian Smith, Caltrans
Sharon Scherzinger, Caltrans
Rachel Falsetti, Caltrans
Mike Brady, Caltrans
Dennis Wade, CARB
Karina O'Connor, EPA
Ted Matley, FTA
S.Grace Balmir, FHWA

Jmazur/jf